NUMB. XIV.

The GUARDIAN.

Nec ſcit, qua ſit iter, nec ſi ſciat imperet— Ovid.

Friday, March 27. 1713.

To the GUARDIAN.

SIR,

'YOU having in your Firſt Paper declared, 'among other things, that you will publiſh whatever you think may conduce 'to the Advancement of the Converſation of Gentlemen, I cannot but hope you will give my Young Maſters, when I have told you their Age, Condition, and how they lead their Lives, and who, though I ſay it, are as docil as any Youths in *Europe*, a Leſſon which they very much want, to reſtrain 'em from the Infection of bad Company, and ſquandering away their Time in idle and unworthy Purſuits. A Word from you, I am very well aſſured, will prevail more with them than any Remonſtrance they will meet with at home. The Eldeſt is now about Seventeen Years of Age and the Younger Fifteen, born of noble Parentage, and to plentiful Fortunes. They have a very good Father and Mother, and alſo a Governour, but come very ſeldom (except againſt their Wills) in the Sight of any of them. That which I obſerve they have moſt Reliſh to is Horſes and Cock-fighting, which they too too well underſtand, being almoſt poſitive at firſt Sight to tell you which Horſe will win the Match, and which Cock the Battel; and if you are of another Opinion, will lay you what you pleaſe on their own, and 'tis odds but you loſe. What I fear to be the greateſt Prejudice to them, is their keeping much cloſer to their Horſes Heels than their Books, and converſing more with their Stable-men and Laquies than with their Relations and Gentlemen; and, I apprehend, are at this time better skill'd how to hold the Reins, and drive a Coach, than to tranſlate a Verſe in *Virgil* or *Horace*: For t'other Day taking a Walk abroad, they met accidentally in the Fields with two young Ladies, whoſe Converſation they were very much pleas'd with; and being deſirous to ingratiate themſelves further into their Favour, prevail'd with 'em, though they had never ſeen them before in their Lives, to take the Air in a Coach of their Father's, which waited for them at the End of *Gray's Inn Lane*. The Youths ran with the Wings of Love, and ordered the Coachman to wait at the Town's End till they came back. One of our young Gentlemen got up before, and t'other behind, to act the Parts they had long, by the Direction and Example of their Comrades, taken much Pains to qualifie themſelves for, and ſo galloped off. What theſe mean Entertainments will end in, it is impoſſible to foreſee; but a *Precaution* upon that Subject might prevent very great Calamities in a very worthy Family, who take in your Papers, and might perhaps be alarmed at what you lay before them upon this Subject.

I am,

SIR,

Your moſt Humble Servant,

T. S.

To the GUARDIAN.

SIR,

'I Writ to you on the 21ſt of this Month, which 'you did not think fit to take Notice of; it gives me the greater trouble that you did not, becauſe I am confident the Father of the young Lads, whom I mentioned, would have conſidered how far what was ſaid in my Letter concerned himſelf; upon which it is now too late to reflect. His ingenious Son, the Coachman, aged Seventeen Years, has ſince that time ran away with, and married one of the Girls I ſpoke of in my laſt. The manner of carrying on the Intreague, as I have picked it out of the younger Brother, who is almoſt Sixteen, ſtill a Batchelor, was as follows:

'One

(Price Two Pence.)